

National Weather Service Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 1997 Time Local Path Length Path Number of Estimated Persons Width Damage **ILLINOIS, South** ILZ087-092>094 Gallatin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac 0001CST 2330CST 0 0 Flood Snowmelt and thunderstorms producing heavy rainfall in January sent the Ohio River rising and cresting during the first half of February. The Ohio River crested at 35.8 feet at Shawneetown on the 2nd and again on the 10th. Flood stage there is 33 feet. At Brookport and Cairo, the Ohio River crested between 1 and 3 feet above flood stage on the 1st. Minor flooding of bottomland occurs at these stages. No significant damage occurred. **ILZ084** Jackson 01 08 Flood Snowmelt and thunderstorms producing heavy rainfall in January sent the Big Muddy River rising and cresting around the first of February. At Murphysboro, the river crested at 21.7 feet, well above the 16 foot flood stage. There was moderate flooding of bottomland. No significant damage occurred. **ILZ083** White Flood Snowmelt and thunderstorms producing heavy rainfall in January sent the Little Wabash River rising and cresting during the first week of February. At Carmi, the river crested about two feet above flood stage on the 2nd. There was minor flooding of bottomland, and no significant damage occurred. **ILZ075** Jefferson Winter Storm ñ8 0300CST Accumulations ranged from less than an inch around Mt. Vernon to almost 3 inches at Golconda, on the Ohio River. Some of the wet snow melted on contact with warmer road surfaces. **ILZ084** Jackson 0600CST 1200CST 13 Winter Storm Snow accumulated an inch or two across far southern Illinois from Carbondale south and east. The snow was mixed with sleet and rain for a brief time. **Wabash County** 3 W Allendale to 21 0510CST 6**K Thunderstorm Wind** Trees and limbs were blown down across the county, blocking a few state roads. A number of power poles were snapped west of Allendale. ILZ084-088-092 Jackson - Union - Alexander 0 Flood Heavy rainfall during the last half of February across the upper Plains sent the Mississippi River rising over flood stage by month's end. At Thebes, the river rose above the 33 foot flood stage on the 26th. Only minor bottomland flooding occurred through the end of the month. **Alexander County** 28 1632CST Hail(1.75) Cairo Arpt **Massac County** 0 Metropolis 28 1800CST Urban/Sml Stream Fld

Rainfall up to three quarters of an inch per hour caused areas of street flooding for a short time. Roads in the Metropolis area were covered by water.



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Persistent thunderstorms resulted in 2 to 3 inches of rain in a couple of hours. This drove small streams and creeks out of their banks. The Little River overflowed its banks at Hopkinsville, but did not flood any homes until March 1. Several rural roads were impassable due to flooding. More widespread and severe flooding occurred with the next round of thunderstorms on March 1.



Marston

28

1455CST

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February 1997 Time Local Path Length Path Number of Estimated Width Persons Damage **KENTUCKY**, Southwest **Muhlenberg County** Greenville 28 0 0 Flash Flood Thunderstorms produced heavy rainfall between 2 and 3 inches in 2 hours. Some roads were covered by water, including Kentucky 181 in spots. **Todd County** Kirkmansville 28 Flash Flood Thunderstorms produced very heavy rainfall between 2 and 3 inches in 2 hours. Kentucky 171 near Kirkmansville was covered by More extensive severe flooding occurred during the next few days as periods of thunderstorms continued MISSOURI, Southeast **MOZ076** Perry Winter Storm Snowfall amounts ranged from 2 to 4 inches. The precipitation began as a mixture of rain and snow late on the afternoon of the 7th, but quickly changed to snow. Some of the heavy wet snow melted on contact with warmer road surfaces. **MOZ076** Perry 0600CST 1200CST Winter Storm 13 Snowfall amounts ranged from an inch at Cape Girardeau to near 4 inches from Poplar Bluff to New Madrid. Sleet and rain briefly mixed with the snow. **Stoddard County Dexter Arpt** 21 0200CST 100K **Thunderstorm Wind** Eight hangars at the Dexter Airport were damaged or destroyed. A jet was moved across the field. A large tree was uprooted **Scott County** Miner 21 0442CST 30K Thunderstorm Wind A barn was blown down on Route O near the Mississippi County line. MOZ076-087 Perry - Cape Girardeau 0200CST 2359CST 25K Flood 24 28 Heavy rainfall during the latter half of February across the upper Plains sent the Mississippi River rising above flood stage by month's end. At Cape Girardeau, the river rose above the 32 foot flood stage on the 24th, and was near 37 feet by the end of the month. The river rose unusually fast, from 15 feet on the 21st to over 35 feet on the 26th. This rapid rise caught some contractors by surprise. A bridge project near Cape Girardeau was abruptly halted by the rising water. Some damage occurred to the work area before contractors could build a makeshift levy. **New Madrid County**

Hail(1.00)